Southern Kordofan

Frequently Asked Questions

How is Southern Kordofan State dealt with in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)?
The CPA Protocol called “The Resolution of the Conflict in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States” governs the current and future status of these states. Another Protocol called “The implementation modalities of the Protocol on the resolution of the Conflict in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile” provides the timeline for CPA implementation. Finally, the “Southern Kordofan Appendix” has important provisions related to wealth and political sharing in Southern Kordofan.

The status of Abyei (Sector VI) is covered by a separate CPA Protocol.

Popular Consultations about implementation of the CPA will be held through the new legislature after 2009 elections. Based on their results, the legislature will negotiate with the national government with the view of rectifying shortcomings found in CPA implementation.

What is the structure of government?
As per the CPA, power in Southern Kordofan is shared between the National Congress Party (NCP) and Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) at a ratio of 55% and 45%, respectively. The Governor’s office rotates, with each party occupying the post for half of the pre-election period. Presently, the Governor is from NCP and the Deputy Governor is from SPLM.

The seats in the Southern Kordofan Legislative Council are also shared at the abovementioned ratio.

Are there any governance challenges in the state?
Ongoing integration of former SPLM-controlled areas into the state administration remains the most important governance challenge in Southern Kordofan.

How are armed forces in Southern Kordofan organized?
The Joint Integrated Units (JIU) have 6,000 soldiers in Southern Kordofan, about 3,000 from the SPLA and 3,000 from the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF). According to the CPA, SPLA troops were to redeploy to Southern Sudan as soon as the JIUs were formed, and SAF troops to be reduced in size. Non-essential soldiers would undergo a disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process, implemented by Sudanese institutions and supported by the international community.

What are the development goals of Southern Kordofan?
Decades of war left Southern Kordofan with serious development challenges. Among its goals are construction and rehabilitation of public infrastructure, particularly as related to water, sanitation, health, and education; support of IDP returns; capacity building; and improvement of public services.

How does Southern Kordofan benefit from the oil revenue?
According to the CPA, 2 per cent of net revenues from oil produced in any part of Southern Kordofan State shall be equitably shared between the two components (former Western Kordofan State including Abyei and former Southern Kordofan).

In addition, the Abyei Protocol stipulates the following entitlements of net revenues from oil produced in Abyei: 50 per cent for the Government of National Unity, 42 per cent for the Government of Southern Sudan, 2 per cent for Bahr El-Ghazal State, 2 per cent for local Misseriya, 2 per cent for local Ngok Dinka, 2 per cent for former Western Kordofan (equitably shared between former Western Kordofan and former
Why did elections take place in Southern Kordofan State a year after national elections of April 2010?

People of Southern Kordofan State went to the polls from 2 to 4 May 2011 to elect their governor and members of the State Legislative Assembly (SLA). The state-level elections were initially scheduled to be held concurrently with the presidential and National Assembly elections of last year.

However, disputes over the 2008 census results for the state led the National Elections Commission (NEC) to postpone the gubernatorial and SLA elections and hold only presidential and National Assembly elections in April 2010.

A new census was conducted in June 2010, which established the state’s population at 2,508,268, as opposed to 1,406,404 of the disputed census. These figures were accepted by the NCP and SPLM.

What was the outcome of the state elections?

Incumbent candidate of the NCP, Ahmed Haroun, won the governorship with 201,455 votes, and the party garnered 22 SLA seats. SPLM gubernatorial candidate Abdel-Aziz Al-Hilu won 194,955 votes and the party 10 SLA seats. Independent gubernatorial candidate Telefon Kuku garnered 9,130 votes. The Women’s List (14 seats) and Party List (8 seats) were divided evenly between the two major parties.